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From: Tom Michelman [mailto:tmichelman@boreal-renewable.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2004 7:05 PM
To: Greg Ball
Cc: David Eisenbud
Subject: Need background Information

Mr. Ball,

Here is the deal. I have been asked to provide testimony against some nasty proposed electric DG Standby Rates by NSTAR here in Massachusetts by the local Solar Energy Business Association (SEBANE – My focus is wind someone else is writing the solar response, nonetheless arguments for intermittent power are the same). I met David at a conference today and he thought you might be able to help with a specific request.

One line of argument that has been suggested to me is that intermittent resources such as solar or wind provide (potential) benefit to the distribution system even if they are NOT working at peak. The idea being that failures at substations are caused by overheating, and if the intermittent load is providing energy prior to the peak period (even if it is not providing power at the peak period), then it will have provided value by avoiding less heat build-up at the substation, because of the on-site generation consumed on-site, rather than alternative of the central station generation (that goes through the substation) that would have been consumed on-site.

I am at the conference will not have access to the internet until late tomorrow (Friday) afternoon. Any information particular studies or regulatory Orders I could cite would be awesome. The testimony is due on Tuesday, and I will be working on it over the weekend. Feel free to call me at home if that is more convenient. 978-263-7370.
I hope you can help, and this is easy stuff you have fingertips and just forward a couple of URLs or files.

Thanks for any help in advance.

Tom

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